

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

followed, he did his utmost to restrain the excesses of his adherents : "I have forgiven, as you know, the beheading of my kinsmen," he said, " and will not you forgive ?" ¹ In September, 1370, the citizens offered to make him absolute lord of Pisa, but he refused, and chose to be merely the chief salaried officer of the Republic, " Captain-General and Defender of the Commune and People." The administration of the twelve Anziani remained, but Piero Gambacorti was virtually the ruler of the State. He was a merciful and pacific man, an ardent Catholic and deeply religious, and his government was, in the main, of a paternal description. Lucca lay directly subject to the Roman Empire in the person of the Cardinal Guy of Boulogne, until in March, 1370, through the intervention of the Pope, the Cardinal surrendered his authority, and Lucca became a free Republic once more, with a Signoria of ten (nine Anziani and a Gonfaloniere of Justice) and the usual two councils. Like the government of the Gambacorti at Pisa, the new-born Republic of Lucca was decidedly papal in its tendencies and sympathies—a political fact of importance in the coming convulsions of Italy.

But, in Siena, things seemed little better under the new regime. There were risings and tumults within the city, in the main the work of the Salimbeni and the adherents of the Twelve, directed against the Noveschi ; there was plundering and ravaging in the contado, the Marquis of Monferrato having failed in his attempt to reconcile the nobles with the popular government. Armed guards were set all over the city and at the gates : ^{cc} And on the tower of the Campo many guards kept watch, day and night, and gave signals with fire and smoke when it was needful, and rang the bells to give the alarm." The Defenders appointed a new officer, the Executor of Justice, with full powers to enforce order, but with little result. "And thus all law and all justice was dead in the city of Siena, by the work of the Salimbeni and of the Twelve. To such a pitch it came that, in Siena and in the contado, men slew and plundered on every side."

² The nobles

¹ *Cronaca di Pisa*, col. 1052. ^a *Cronaca Senese*, coll. 207, 208. 70